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Wolverine Guard™

Vol. 7, No. 12 Adjutant General's Office, Lansing, Michigan December 1987

Photo by Spec. Mark Jones

RUNWAY ALERT WITH THE 191ST

Who Guards America's Skies Around the Clock Every Day of the Year?
See Pages 12 & 13

Editorial

As the holiday season draws near, it is well that we pause for a moment and reflect on the very cornerstone of American Society — our families. As does our Nation, the strength of the Michigan National Guard lies in its people, whether they be soldiers, airmen, civilians or family members. For over 350 years, the citizen soldier has set aside personal, business and family interests to respond to the call of duty in defense of this country. And while it has been said that no one knows better the pain, misery and suffering of war than a soldier or airman, the families often left behind have paid just as great a price for the treasure we call Freedom.

Today more than ever, it is essential that these contributions not be taken for granted and that each of us remember that the strength of our families is vital to the strength of our nation.

The Michigan National Guard is now larger in terms of people than it has ever been. Our human goal undergirds all other organizational goals and the realization of their full potential. Fostering wholesome lives for our families is a crucial component of the human goal. I am dedicating 1988 to Michigan National Guard families and the fostering of "Families of Excellence" within available resources and in concert with other readiness goals. Even as I write now, steps are being taken to recognize and acknowledge our families as perhaps the single greatest contributor to our members' ability to train, mobilize, and deploy in support of State and Federal missions.

Because our families' role in both readiness and retention is critical, a partnership must exist between the Michigan National Guard and Guard families. The Guard's unique missions, concept of service, and demands on the lifestyle of our members affect the nature of this partnership. To strengthen it, I am committed to assuring adequate support to our families in order to recognize their sacrifices, promote family wellness, develop a real sense of community, and strengthen the mutually reinforcing bonds between the Michigan National Guard and its families.

Maj. Gen. Vernon J. Andrews

Tag Talk

The basis for my commitment is simple: The Michigan National Guard is an institution, not an occupation. Our soldiers and airmen take an oath of service to the Nation and its Military Services, rather than simply accept a job. Thus, as an institution, the Guard has both a moral and ethical obligation to those who serve, as well as their families; they, correspondingly, have responsibilities to the Guard. This relationship creates a partnership based on simple human behavior and American traditions.

I call on each and every member of the Michigan National Guard, from commanders to new recruits, to recognize and express sincere appreciation to the often thankless role of our families in service to this country. Through the continued development of State and local unit programs we can demonstrate that families are critical to the success of the Guard's missions. A successful family program can only increase communication and awareness among our families, units, and the Michigan National Guard leadership. Such an effort is sure to be effective by emphasizing family involvement as a partnership with each unit, fostering a sense of well being, and strengthening a sense of community with shared benefits and responsibilities. We owe this much to our families, and the upcoming holiday period is an excellent time to recognize their immeasurable contribution to our well-being and preparedness.

Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday and an enjoyable New Year!

Wolverine Guard

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Airman of the Year

Sergeant Jeffrey R. Talaga, a resident of Bay City, was selected as Outstanding Airman of the Year for the 191st Fighter Interceptor Group at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

As a result of his selection, Sgt. Talaga had the opportunity to attend a special awards presentation held at the National Guard Bureau in Washington, D.C. where he attended a presentation and awards banquet.

Factors which led to his election as Outstanding Airman were his work as a youth counselor, high moral standards, job proficiency and military bearing.

Sergeant Talaga, the student, has a record of maintaining a grade point average of 3.0 to 3.5. He attended Saint Stanislaus Junior High School in Bay City and graduated from All Saints High School in the same city. He is currently enrolled in Delta College where he is on the Dean's List. He is also studying at Northwood Institute in Midland, Michigan.

His compassion for children is evident to all. He works part-time at the Bay County Juvenile Home for Boys and is a member of the Big Brothers Society.

The strong Catholic upbringing of Sgt. Talaga has led him to be active at his local parish of Saint Stanislaus in both choir and athletics. His moral integrity impressed his fellow Air Guardsmen and played a major role in his selection as Outstanding Airman of the Year for the 191st Fighter Interceptor Group.

Photo by Selfridge Photographic Laboratory

Sergeant Jeffrey R. Talaga holds his Airman of the Year plaque.

Demonstrating his self-discipline and sense of dedication to the Michigan Air National Guard, Talaga graduated as the honor graduate of United States Air Force Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. He attended a very difficult Aircraft Armaments Technical School and has aggressively pursued on-the-job training upon his return to Selfridge. His knowledge and enthusiasm gained him the respect of his peers and recognition from his supervisors. He completed his leadership training through home study and was recently promoted to Sergeant.

His official recommendation for the title of Outstanding Airman of 1987 was written by his unit commander, Col. Gregory Maciolek. In his narrative, the colonel wrote, "The members of the 191st Fighter Interceptor Group applaud Airman Talaga and selected him to be their recipient of the Group's Airman of the Year Award (Airman Category) for 1987. It is without a doubt that the contribution that Airman Talaga has made to his family, community, Air National Guard and Air Force are deserving of higher recognition."

by Sgt. Tony Randazzo

Up to $5,040 available to help pay for college

Would $5,040, tax-free, help pay for your education? Are you one of nearly 20,000 National Guard members taking advantage of this benefit?

It's all part of the New G.I. Bill, a federal program designed to help pay for college or vocational education. Service members, in the National Guard and Reserves and on active duty, are eligible for the cash benefit.

The bill allows a reserve component participant to receive a maximum of $5,040 in education benefits when enrolled in a Veterans Administration-approved institution. The student rates are $140 monthly (full-time), $105 monthly (¾-time) and $70 monthly (½-time).

To be eligible for the New G.I. Bill, a Guard member must complete a statement of understanding (DA Form 5435-R), serve satisfactorily and meet the following eligibility criteria:

— Be a high school graduate or GED holder.

— Not have received a baccalaureate degree or equivalent.

— Not be qualified for the all-volunteer force education assistance program (New G.I. Bill for combined active and reserve service).

— Not be receiving an ROTC scholarship.

To use the New G.I. Bill, enlisted personnel must enlist, reenlist or extend an enlistment in the Selected Reserve (example: your local Guard unit) for a minimum of six years prior to June 30, 1988. Officers must agree to serve in the Selected Reserve for six years (in addition to any other obligation). People who leave the service before their obligation is fulfilled must refund a pro-rated share of their education benefit.

Students who are eligible are issued a DD Form 2384 (Notice of Basic Eligibility). At that time, the Guard member should review all the data to ensure accuracy and, if incomplete or wrong, correct immediately. The Veterans Administration uses the data in verifying eligibility for the New G.I. Bill.

Use of the program is growing slowly, according to National Guard Bureau officials. To date, the states of Ohio, Alabama and Illinois, respectively, lead the nation in the number of Guard members enrolled.

Details about the program are available from Army or Air National Guard recruiters, unit headquarters and education offices located in your state's headquarters. Depending on your military job and unit assignment, you may be eligible for additional federal benefits. Many states also provide added education benefits.

Photo by Spec. Mark Jones

Major David Britten is the Education Officer for the Department of Military Affairs

Former POW recounts horrors

The horrors of more than 600 prisoners of war came alive as one retired Air Force lieutenant colonel spoke to Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) students at Michigan State University, Tuesday, 10 November 1987.

Donald Odell told about 150 Army and Air Force ROTC students in an early Veterans Day commemoration that the Vietnamese did not consider those captured to be POWs, but dangerous criminals.

"It was their means of justifying the inhumane treatment and torture," Odell said. "According to them, we deserved it."

Odell served in the Air Force for 23 years and spent almost six of them captive in North Vietnam. Some prisoners were held nearly nine years or longer, he said.

Odell, who works as the public affairs officer for Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mount Clemens, said he speaks to more than a dozen groups each year about his experiences.

"I do it not out of obligation, but responsibility," he said. "I feel very strongly about our failure in Vietnam. There's a lesson to be learned in this...we can only pray and hope that our country never gets itself into this type of situation again."

One out of five soldiers captured died from either malnutrition, disease or mistreatment, Odell said.

The "Hanoi Hilton," a main prison in North Vietnam during the war which is now the subject of another Vietnam movie, was where Odell was held for part of his imprisonment.

But the worst of the torture was not always physical, Odell said. Isolation — for some as long as three years — cost in mental tolls. Prisoners who tried to escape almost always were caught and killed, he added.

The government has almost 800 reports of POWs still being sighted in Vietnam, Odell said. But only about 200 reports are under consideration by the government, he said.

"After this much time, I don't consider it very probable that they are alive more than just physically," he said.

Odell added he avoids the numerous Vietnam movies because they are unrealistic and not a true representation of what happened.

Tom Liska, one of the event's organizers, said he admired Odell for being truthful and "telling it like it is."

"He gave us the highlights of what (the military) does and the chance we have to take," said Liska, a criminal justice senior.

Ray Draeger, who also helped coordinate Odell's visit, said he thought hearing about the POWs was a valuable experience for future military personnel.

"Anybody in the military has to have some sort of training in regard to imprisonment," said Draeger, a history and English senior. "This may end up saving their life someday."

by Tanya Gazdik
Reprinted courtesy of *State News*

Photo by Jacqueline Spector

Lieutenant Colonel "Digger" O'Dell was a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam for six years.

"The belief in a supernatural source of evil is not necessary; men alone are quite capable of every wickedness."

—Joseph Conrad, novelist

Vietnam Veterans Fly Missing Man Formation

Photo by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

UH-1H "Huey" helicopters from the 446th Attack Helicopter Battalion and the 46th Aviation Battalion, Grand Ledge, Michigan, fly the "missing man" formation over Lansing on POW-MIA Day, 19 September 1987.

Four Vietnam-era UH-1H "Huey" helicopters of the Michigan Army National Guard flew in the "missing man" formation over the silent MIA-POW parade in Lansing on September 19th. Each of the "Huey" helicopters was flown by a Michigan Army National Guard aviator who had flown the same type aircraft during the Vietnam War. Leading the missing man formation was Col. John Rowland who served with the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam. His co-pilot was CW4 Mark Hinkleman who also flew in combat with the 1st Cavalry.

The second aircraft was flown by CW3 Kerry Krupski, who flew with the 18th Aviation Company, and CW3 Anton Skarich, 1st Cavalry Division. Number three helicopter was piloted by Lt. Col. James Ausdemore, who saw aerial combat with the 119th Assault Helicopter Company, and CW3 Gordon Squires, who flew for the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. The last aircraft, representing the "missing man" was flown by CW4 James Malek, who served with the 71st Aviation Company, and Lt. Col. Charles Doherty, whose combat unit in Vietnam was the 174th Assault Helicopter Company.

by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Constitution guarantees Americans' freedoms

Imagine this scene:

You and a friend are dining at a local restaurant. Several policemen enter and force you and the other diners to line up against a wall, ID cards in hand.

You, your friend and a few other people are pushed out the door and into a waiting van. There is no explanation. You don't know where you are going, and you don't know why. By now, you're pretty scared and you begin to wonder if you'll ever be seen or heard from again.

There are many countries in the world where such scenes are repeated almost daily. Luckily, America isn't one of them. Americans aren't marched off to the work camps, tortured, confined without trial, or otherwise unlawfully searched or seized. Americans are free from such actions because the Constitution guarantees their freedoms. And the Constitution works because soldiers like you, along with our elected officials, are sworn to uphold and defend it.

Tens of thousands of Americans have given their lives to create our democracy under the Constitution. Millions of loyal men and women have fought and died to keep it. The willingness of those soldiers to defend the principles of democracy for us, and to uphold the Constitution, should make us all more determined to fight for it.

The Constitution can be thought of as a list of America's values, which are, and always have been, the Army's values.

American and Army values ensure your rights as a citizen. Very few countries in the world today offer you religious freedom; freedom of speech, press and assembly; freedom to petition the government for redress of grievances; and freedom to be secure in peace and prosperity and to have equal justice under the law.

The civil-rights movement and student protest of the 1960s and 70s could not have occurred without the power of the Constitution. Martin Luther King Jr. knew and understood that and used it to prove that in America one person can make a difference by peacefully exercising his or her constitutional rights.

By supporting the Constitution as a citizen-soldier, you keep those rights for yourself and ensure they exist for others. You are part of an elite group representing less than four-tenths of one percent of Americans who train to fight so that other citizens don't have to.

Writing the Constitution in 1787 was a new task for men. It was the first balanced structure of power between the government and the people in which liberty, equality and justice were rights for all citizens. When it was finished, it was called "Novus ordo seclorum," the "New order of the ages," a phrase you'll find engraved on dollar bills.

Photo by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Lieutenant Colonel Larry Ware, commander of the 146th Military Police Battalion, presents his colors to the Adjutant General at the 1987 Annual Review at Camp Grayling.

Soldier-statesmen and civilians alike counted on the political wisdom and involvement of average citizens to make things work. Hence, the Constitution guarantees we are all somebody in the political process because the founding fathers knew that in a free society each individual is an essential ingredient, indispensable to the whole.

Thomas Jefferson and James Madison believed the people would see to it that men "of virtue and talents" would occupy political offices. When occasional corrupt persons came into power, Jefferson and Madison believed that an outraged American public could sooner or later peacefully remove them from office, something that can only happen in a free society where every citizen's voice counts.

Its framers recognized that citizens have the right to petition to alter the Constitution, but they made it difficult to do so. More than 7,000 amendments have been proposed; 33 have been passed by Congress, but only 26 have been ratified.

Most important are the first 10 amendments, called the Bill of Rights. They protect individual liberties such as freedom of religion, speech and press. They grant citizens the right to peacefully assemble and petition the government. They also prohibit unreasonable search and seizure of people and property, outline rights of citizens in criminal cases, guarantee the right to confront accusers, and mandate the right to a fair trial by a jury.

Today, the Constitution is the oldest written constitution still in effect.

It's important to note that when American colonists fought and died to establish and preserve principles of human freedom, the Constitution was not yet written. Still, American patriots understood what they were fighting for and never wavered in their commitment. Nor should you. It is well to remember that the cannonballs that exploded on the Revolutionary battle fields looked just as formidable and destructive to our ancestors as nuclear bombs do to us.

Our nation has proven in both situations that good soldiers are necessary to keep the United States strong and free as a beacon of liberty and democracy. You, the soldiers of today training hard to protect your country, must make yourselves into citizen-soldiers equal to your predecessors if our Constitution is to survive.

by SFC Dan Coberly

Safety Saves Lives

A recon patrol searching for one of the Army's most dangerous enemies couldn't find it. It had excellent camouflage and numerous invisible allies. The soldiers in the patrol could have reached and touched their enemy at any time, but the patrol didn't make contact because it didn't realize it was that close. The patrol got a hint when the noise of an M113A1 armored personnel carrier and a scream merged to wake them up. All except one — who was dead.

The investigation revealed the patrol's most dangerous enemy in peace time — itself and other soldiers. The investigation exposed the enemy's allies — fatigue, carelessness, impatience and poor planning, which result in accidents.

The statistics are clear and have been with the Army for many years. Accidents have survived and thrived, losing star billing as killers only during war. But even then they take their share.

During World War II, one of every five American soldiers killed died as a result of an accident. More than half the Army personnel hospitalized during the Korean conflict were injured in accidents. Vietnam Conflict accidents cost 5,700 lives and disabled more than 106,000 soldiers. Each year the equivalent of a battalion of soldiers is killed in accidents.

During the investigation of the "accident" the NCO in charge of the patrol said the men were too tired to set up a watch, and he hadn't expected an enemy attack. Besides, there wasn't supposed to be anyone else in the area. The commander of the M113A1 said he was tired and misread his map, but he was following a tank trail, and what were they doing sleeping on it anyway?

There are always good excuses for killer accidents — fatigue, carelessness, impatience, poor planning.

The results of an accident ripple over a wide audience. Aside from the emotional blow to family and friends, two Army professionals get to practice their occupations. Chaplains get to practice their battle plans against grief. The commander gets to practice making adjustments in his battle plans to sudden, unexpected losses of men and equipment. He has to worry more about losing.

Safety must be a main concern of military leaders. Readiness means not only being trained to fight, it means being trained to get to, through and back from the fight without stubbing a toe. It means being safety conscious to the point that only the enemy's bullets cause casualties — that soldiers don't die needlessly because of fatigue, carelessness, impatience, poor planning.

The leaders have their reputations on the line, but the front-line private has his life on the line. He is the one who dies if he or someone else doesn't see the enemy — from within as well as from without. His wife is the one the chaplain sees.

That is what soldiers must understand — safety is a process that has two main functions: keep them alive, first, so that they can win and stay alive, second.

We are the enemy; our allies are fatigue, carelessness, impatience, poor planning. For us to win, we must learn that. Finding the enemy is the first step.

Annual Training Dates for Training Year 1988

The return of the 1070th Maintenance Company from the Netherlands (see pages 8 and 9) marks the beginning of the Michigan Army National Guard's 1988 annual training cycle. In the interest of ensuring that everyone in the command knows when their unit is conducting annual training, the following schedule is published. Locations of units training out of the country are not announced because of the need for operational security and deployment realism. Guardsoldiers are reminded that it is their responsibility to inform their employers of their annual training dates. Units will supply notices of the dates.

30 January-13 February — Camp Grayling
1st Battalion 125th Infantry
507th Engineer Battalion, less the 1432nd Engineer Company

28 February-16 March — Out of Country
126th Public Affairs Detachment

7-21 May — Fort Campbell, Kentucky
Detachment 2 1903rd Transportation Company

4-25 June — Out of Country
1438th Engineer Detachment

11-25 June — Camp Grayling
Headquarters, State Area Readiness Command
1009th Transportation Detachment
72nd Support Brigade
46th Aviation Battalion
1146th Aviation Company
Company F (Long Range Surveillance) 425th Infantry
107th Supply and Service Battalion
460th Supply and Service Company
461st General Supply Company
464th Service Company
146th Transportation Battalion
1461st Transportation Company
746th Ordnance Company
156th Signal Battalion
207th Evacuation Hospital
446th Attack Helicopter Battalion
746th Maintenance Battalion
1072nd Maintenance Company
1073rd Maintenance Company
Detachment 1, Company G 738th Maintenance Battalion
2071st Medical Clearing Company
745th Explosive Ordnance Detachment
1439th Engineer Detachment
177th Military Police Brigade
146th Military Police Battalion
46th Military Police Company
144th Military Police Company
210th Military Police Battalion
1775th Military Police Company
1776th Military Police Company
1st Battalion 182nd Field Artillery
46th Infantry Brigade (Wolverines)
3rd Battalion 126th Infantry
1st Battalion 225th Infantry
1st Battalion 246th Armor
1st Battalion 119th Field Artillery
46th Engineer Group
107th Engineer Battalion
117th Quartermaster Battalion
1171st Quartermaster Company
1075th Maintenance Company
207th Engineer Battalion
1146th Engineer Detachment
1435th Engineer Company
1436th Engineer Company
1437th Engineer Company

16-30 July — Fort Custer Training Center
Detachment 3, State Area Readiness Command

13-27 August — Camp Grayling
1440th Engineer Detachment

2-24 September — Out of Country
1432nd Engineer Company

Year Around — Various Locations
126th Army Band

Any questions regarding scheduling for annual training dates for Michigan Army National Guard units should be referred to Master Sgt. Gerald Van Ess at Operations and Training, Department of Military Affairs, 2500 South Washington Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48913. (517) 483-5618.

★★ Two Star Club Continued ★★

One year ago, Maj. Gen. Vernon J. Andrews, the Adjutant General, challenged every full-time member of the Army National Guard to recruit one person for the calendar year 1987. This will continue in 1988.

Each full-time Guardsoldier who met the challenge in 1987 was given a set of two coffee mugs with Major General's stars on them and Gen. Andrews' personal thanks.

To date, 134 full-timers have recruited 162 new soldiers into the Michigan Army National Guard. The variance in the two figures is because some full-timers have met the challenge more than once. The high-roller in the Two Star Club is Chief Warrant Officer Four Charles R. Dudek who has a shelf of 12 coffee mugs for recruiting 6 warrant officer pilots into his unit, the 1146th Aviation Company at Grand Ledge, Michigan.

Because of the high quality of the new soldiers brought into the Army Guard in 1987, Gen. Andrews has decided to continue the Two Star Club into 1988.

"The full-time staff knows better than anyone else the high standards of the Michigan Army National Guard and wants to maintain those standards by recruiting quality soldiers," said Andrews.

Space precludes listing all of the soldiers brought into the Michigan Army National Guard through the Two Star Club but the names of the full-time staff who recruited at least one soldier in 1987 are listed here in appreciation of their efforts.

by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Col. McNamara, Michael P.
Col. Rowland, John C.
Lt. Col. Schnipke, Alan L.
Lt. Col. Larsen, Charles G.
Lt. Col. Klynstra, James A.
Lt. Col. Lawson, Lee E.
Lt. Col. Maxon, Brent P.
Lt. Col. Arrington, Harold M.
Maj. Stonehouse, Fredrick
Maj. Swope, Timothy J.
Maj. Thompson, Michael E.
Maj. Hostnik, Frank C.
Maj. Huntoon, Norman L.
Maj. Irwin, David J.
Maj. McDowell, Joe
Maj. Meyers, Berri K.
Maj. Adams, William C.
Maj. Bobenmoyer, Keith J.
Maj. Brumbaugh, Ellis E. Jr.
Maj. Carr, Michael E.
Maj. Deetz, William L.
Capt. Weller, Blair M.
Capt. Wilson, James E.
Capt. Horner, Lori K.
Capt. Lamie, Thomas F.
Capt. Lanczy, Tibor J.
Capt. Lundy, Robert D.
Capt. Poole, John III
Capt. Culbert, Noel D.
Capt. Cyrus, Ron
1Lt. Soldano, Roger L.
2Lt. Bartolacci, James D.
2Lt. Sumner, Brian S.
CW4 Tate, Richard G.
CW4 Fritts, Gerald L.
CW4 Damvelt, Marine S.
CW4 Dudek, Charles R.
CW3 Rasmussen, John J.
CW3 Sheldon, William D.
CW3 Smith, Richard M.
CW3 Terry, Robert D.
CW3 Vander Shuur, Darel L.
CW3 Hughes, Kenneth L.
CW3 Maiorana, William J.
CW3 Mead, Glenn B.
CW3 Miller, Frank M.
CW3 Brooks, Clarence H.
CW2 Floriano, Joseph W.
CW2 Lee, Edward M.
CW2 Terry, Lillian
CW2 Whitney, Ronald J.
Csm. David, Donald
1Sg. Mak, Warren E.
Master Sgt. Van Ess, Leon G. Jr.
Master Sgt. Cole, Loren P.
Master Sgt. Fisher, Jay E.
Plt. Sgt. Smith, Jerry L.
Plt. Sgt. Viau, William C.
Plt. Sgt. Hutcheson, James L.
Plt. Sgt. Piotrowski, Ervin R.
Sgt. 1st Class Rhode, Dale A.
Sgt. 1st Class Sanders, Sharon K.
Sgt. 1st Class Sanderson, Marion D.
Sgt. 1st Class Thelen, Alan E.
Sgt. 1st Class Van De Ven, Martin A.
Sgt. 1st Class Womer, William
Sgt. 1st Class Forrow, Duane W.
Sgt. 1st Class Harvey, Gary L.
Sgt. 1st Class Hewer, William R.
Sgt. 1st Class La Chance, Richard A.
Sgt. 1st Class Maleske, James J.
Sgt. 1st Class Mansfield, Joseph
Sgt. 1st Class Nagtzaam, Charles R.
Sgt. 1st Class Nelson, Peter F.
Sgt. 1st Class Penny, Helen J.
Sgt. 1st Class Pontious, Rollin K.
Sgt. 1st Class Rankin, David J.
Sgt. 1st Class Beauchamp, John
Sgt. 1st Class Bigelow, Marlin A.
Sgt. 1st Class Byczek, Robert F.
Sgt. 1st Class Chang, Nate
Sgt. 1st Class Dowd, William J.
Sgt. 1st Class Dykeman, Robert W.
Sgt. 1st Class Foreback, Richard
Staff Sgt. Shearner, Michael D.
Staff Sgt. Slocum, Ben F.
Staff Sgt. Tyrrell, Garnet J.
Staff Sgt. Ulchar, James A.
Staff Sgt. Ulmer, Edward F. II
Staff Sgt. Windt, Arthur T. Jr.
Staff Sgt. Witte, William C. Jr.
Staff Sgt. Haas, James A.
Staff Sgt. Hart, Fredrick D.
Staff Sgt. Lewis, Gilbert L.
Staff Sgt. Melvin, Alvin L.
Staff Sgt. Miller, Jack B.
Staff Sgt. Peacock, Leroy B.
Staff Sgt. Balderson, Richard C.
Staff Sgt. Compton, Jon L.
Staff Sgt. Criffield, Lain A.
Sgt. Sardo, Peter
Sgt. Schloegl, Lawrence E.
Sgt. Schnipke, Sue
Sgt. Smith, Neil A.
Sgt. Stillwell, Nathan D.
Sgt. Fraser, Mike
Sgt. Haas, Frederick S.
Sgt. Hall, Ronald L.
Sgt. Laseur, Gerrit H.
Sgt. Latchaw, Roger L.
Sgt. Maupin, Robert S.
Sgt. Neil, Cynthia M.
Sgt. Oliver, Roy
Sgt. Powell, Bruce E.
Sgt. Allen, Jeffrey S.
Sgt. Becerra, Mario
Sgt. Collins, Arthur J.
Sgt. Crossman, Tette A.
Sgt. Delano, Terri L.
Sgt. Ellis, Daniel J.
Sgt. Felsing, James R.
Sgt. Feringa, Robin E.
Cpl. Serra, Anthony
Cpl. Whitmer, Tamberlene
Spec. Salinas, Anthony R.
Spec. Schinske, Ronald H.
Spec. Scramlin, Dale L. Jr.
Spec. Strand, Richard A.
Spec. Zandi, Kimberly
Spec. Morales, Tammy B.
Spec. Barnes, Allen R.
Spec. Cameron, Marsha K.
Spec. Flathau, Jeffrey P.

"A man with his heart in his profession imagines and finds resources where the worthless and lazy despair."
—Frederick the Great

REFORGER, POMCUS and the

A short history lesson and redefining several jaw-breaking acronyms are necessary to understand why the 1070th Maintenance Company from Lansing spent their annual training inspecting, repairing and mothballing tanks and tracks in the Netherlands from the 16th of October until the 7th of November this year.

When World War II ended, the victorious Allied Powers quickly realized they faced a new threat to the East, the increasingly hostile Soviets. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was formed to protect the hard won freedoms of the West and the Americans kept a large number of troops in Europe. A major concern of NATO in the 1950's was how quickly Europe could be reinforced if the war started.

The answer was REFORGER. The acronym means REturn of FORces to GERmany. War planners knew that troops could quickly be airlifted to Germany in an emergency but that the heavy combat equipment would have to come later by sea. Having combat vehicles already in Europe seemed to be the answer. Fast deploying troops could be airlifted to Europe, fall in on prepositioned equipment and be ready to fight in days instead of weeks or months. POMCUS was developed, funded and sited. POMCUS means Prepositioned Overseas Material Configured to Unit Sets. Enough combat equipment to field several divisions are in Europe now at scattered POMCUS sites. These sites are managed by Combat Equipment Group, Europe (CEGE) and its subordinate Combat Equipment Companies (CEC). The CECs use contract civilian labor to maintain the combat equipment between exercises and National Guard and Army Reserve maintenance companies augment them during large exercises such as REFORGER.

The deployment of the 1st Cavalry Division from Fort Hood, Texas to West Germany and the Netherlands tested the REFORGER concept in 1987. The 1st Cavalry drew their combat vehicles from POMCUS sites in both countries for the exercise and at ENDEX, end of exercise, cleaned it and turned it in. Here it was inspected, repaired where needed and readied for storage by the 1070th Maintenance Company.

The 1070th worked at three different CEC sites in the Netherlands: Site 19 at Vreseenveene, Site 20 at Coverdon and Site 21 at Ter Apel.

According to 2nd Lt. Hollie Crissie, the company's Tech Supply platoon leader, the company worked 7 days a week for the whole exercise but each individual soldier got one day off a week.

"We were allowed off the RMA (Remobilization Mustering Area) after duty but had a midnight curfew. The Dutch Reserve MPs and American MPs did the security and

Photo by Sgt. Leslie Arthur

First Lieutenant Rex Mohnke gives the Oath of Re-enlistment to Sgt. Vaughn Simpson on a Dutch windmill.

Photo by Sgt. Leslie Arthur

Billeting for female soldiers was consolidated at the Remobilization Mustering Area. Here a soldier from the 1st Cavalry Division moves her gear into the female quarters.

1070th Maintenance Company

checked our ID cards but we could go to the theater and arcade in the evenings."

The combat vehicles that the mechanics of the 1070th worked on were new to them so a company training and familiarization program was developed to gain maintenance experience on the M-1A Abrams main battle tank, the M-2 Bradley fighting vehicle and the HEMTT, heavy, expanded mobile tactical truck.

"The Michigan Guard doesn't have the new tanks and tracks so our mechanics don't get to work on them. That's why the Regional Maintenance Training Center (RMTC) is going in at Fort Custer, so our mechanics can work and train on the stuff they'll be working on after mobilization," said Staff Sgt. Leslie Arthur of Headquarters, 746th Maintenance Battalion.

Working long hours and sleeping in tents didn't dampen the company's morale, said Lt. Crissie.

"We were treated pretty good by the 21st Support Command. The food was MREs and 'T-packs' but we made out. The retention rate must have been high because the company commander, 1st Lt. Rex Mohnke, climbed a Dutch windmill to give Sgt. Vaughn Simpson his three year re-enlistment oath."

If morale was high, so was performance according to Maj. Barry Meyers, the training officer for the 72nd Support Brigade. "The 1070th performed in an outstanding manner. They really did a good job."

That's GOOD as an acronym, Great Organization — Objectives Done.

Photo by Sgt. Leslie Arthur

Private 1st Class Troy E. Taylor points out the next step in pulling the power pack from an Abrams tank to Spec. Terry L. Rata at Coverdon in the Netherlands.

by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Photo by Sgt. Leslie Arthur

This Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck (HEMTT) is parked outside CEC Site 21 at Ter Apel, Netherlands.

PROUD

Recently, the *Wolverine Guard* published a two-part series written by Mr. Don Geiss and Lt. Col. Douglas Cardis on what would happen at Camp Grayling when the National Guard is called into Federal service. These articles first appeared in the *Crawford County Avalanche.*

This scenario was tested in November as part of a nationwide mobilization exercise called Proud Scout.

President Ronald Reagan to invoke his 200,000 man (200K) Presidential Call-Up Authority to mobilize the National Guard.

This exercise assumed a national emergency was happening and caused President Ronald Reagan to invoke his 200,000 man (200K) Presidential Call-Up Authority to mobilize the National Guard and United States Army Reserve for 90 days. This 90-day limit can be extended by the Congress of the United States.

This decision triggered the Guard and Army Reserve mobilization plans and Guard units in Michigan began to exercise those plans. For the sake of Proud Scout, every Guard and Army Reserve unit, both in-state and from out-of-state, that is scheduled to mobilize at Camp Grayling sent player cells to walk through the mobilization process. Detachment size units sent one soldier, companies sent two soldiers, and battalions sent three-person cells.

To receive these troops, the Installation Support Unit at Camp Grayling put 106 Guardsoldiers on duty from the 9th through the 20th of November. In an actual mobilization, the ISU would be vastly increased with civilian hires, retirees recalled to active duty, soldiers from the IRR (Individual Ready Reserve) and the IMA (Individual Mobilization Augmentees).

Camp Grayling is scheduled to accept over 60 battalion and squadron size units upon mobilization according to Lt. Col. Douglas Cardis, Mobilization Planner. "We can only put 7,000 troops under tin so most of them would have to bivouac on the reservation and in the Huron and Manistee National Forests while they complete their post-mobilization training.

"We'll have units showing up understrength, overstrength and with MOS mismatches. Our job will be to cross-level units and get the right people in the right jobs. We will do this by validating their MOS before deployment. We'll draw critical and short MOSs from the IRR and the IMA and 4th Army to fill units with the right skills."

For Proud Scout, the ISU formed teams to validate MOSs in the player cells. Short skills were filled by contacting the IRR and

The radio and power vans of the 2372nd Signal I

Photo by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Specialist Samuel Beasley, left, and Corp. Daniel Armstrong, both of the 1775th Military Police Company, Detroit, pull their 12 on, 12 off, MP guard shift in front of Proud Scout's Tactical Operations Center (TOC) at Camp Grayling. The tilted barrel to the right is to safely clear weapons before entering the TOC.

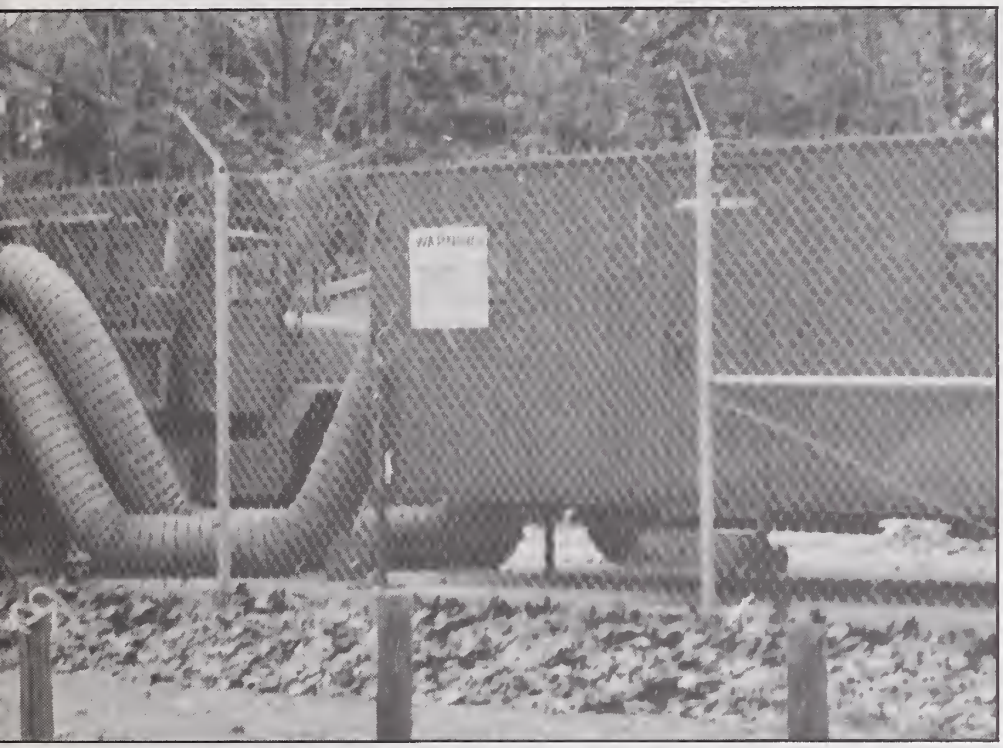


Photo by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

chment are safely behind wire at Camp Grayling during Proud Scout.

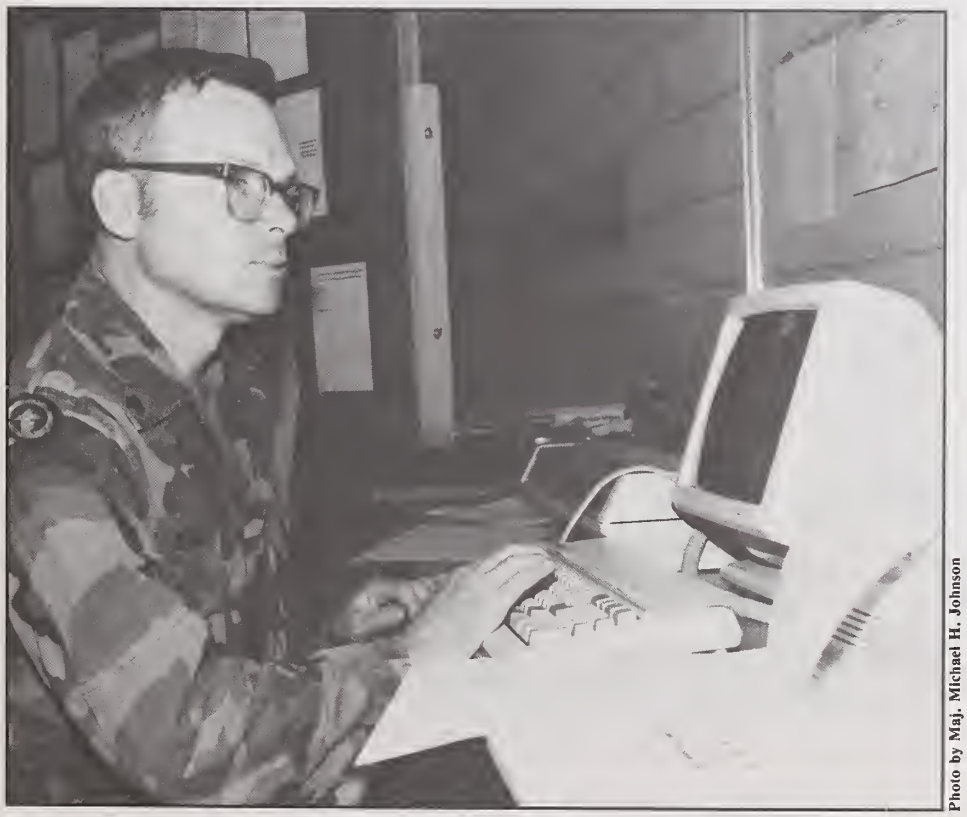


Photo by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Sergeant Wayne Walker of Manistee, Michigan was called to duty for two weeks to work on Proud Scout. His job was to computer search for critical Military Occupational Specialties to cross-level mobilized units.

IMA managers in Saint Louis, Missouri and 4th U.S. Army at Fort Sheridan, Illinois. Contact was made through the WWMCCS (World Wide Military Command and Control System) and with secure radio provided by the 2372nd Signal Detachment, a USAR unit from Selfridge Air National Guard Base. These systems were on-line 24 hours a day during Proud Scout.

Cross-leveling applied to equipment as well as to people according to Maj. Dan Schrock, S-4 for the Installation Support Unit. "A unit needs all of its critical equipment to go to war. Our job during mobilization is to determine what's short from their reports and try to find what they need from units that are deploying later or from other stocks. On M-Day we're going to have 210 aircraft here at Camp Grayling and 15 percent are going to be RED-EXed (deadlined) and not mission capable. We have to get these aircraft flying before they leave for their port of embarkation."

A briefing by the ISU staff was given to the Commander of 4th United States Army, Lt. Gen. Robert Brown on the 19th of November. Each staff section briefed on the successes and problem areas of Proud Scout as seen from their point of view. General Brown commented on each as seen from his perspective and that of Fourth Army.

"The most critical part of mobilization is MOS validation. You've got to have a system to handle that." said Brown.

Commenting on putting soldiers back in the Guard after having been out for years, Brown said, "What do you do with the IRR and IMA soldier when he arrives at your front gate? How does he get 'resocialized' into the Army?"

"We've got to convert from the beautiful world of paper to the nasty world of people."

And on exercise versus real-world, Brown said, "We've got to convert from the beautiful world of paper to the nasty world of people."

Proud Scout was an exercise that used paper and people and computers to determine if the Guard and Army Reserve can be efficiently mobilized.

It can be, according to Lt. Col. Douglas Cardis, but there remain problems to be worked out. "The overall accomplishment of our part of Proud Scout was a firm success but the data base was not sufficiently loaded and a true evaluation of the systems could not be accomplished.

by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Runway Alert with

The mission of the North American Air Defense (NORAD) Command is to protect the North American landmass from hostile air strike. This is done by 24-hour, every day surveillance of the skies over Canada and the northern tier or states in this country and by jet fighter interceptors sitting around the clock alert at various airbases in Canada and the United States.

According to the April 1987 Yearbook Issue of the *National Guard* the Air National Guard has 78 percent of the responsibility for Continental Strategic Interceptor Forces.

The 191st Fighter Interceptor Group (FIG), Michigan Air National Guard at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, has a slice of the NORAD mission. Full-time and part-time pilots and weapons systems officers from the 191st FIG sit runway alert on shifts ranging from 12 to 48 hours. When scrambled on alert, these pilots can be in the air and flying in less than six minutes.

When the pilots aren't on alert, they fly at least two training missions a day when weather permits. These training missions include aerial re-fueling, instrument flying, simulated air-to-air combat and defense air patrol. This training keeps pilots and crews mentally and physically prepared for their alert mission.

The aircraft these pilots fly is the F-4D Phantom. This fighter jet is an F-4C with modifications made to improve its maneuverability, which is of utmost importance in the interceptor role.

The alert aircraft are kept combat loaded with Sparrow air-to-air and Sidewinder heat-seeking missiles. These Phantoms can also be armed with a 20 millimeter Vulcan cannon.

The 191st has a detachment at Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base in North Carolina which has the same mission over the Atlantic Ocean. Crews from this detachment have intercepted Soviet Bear bombers flying from bases in Cuba.

This mission of an alert detachment such as the 191st requires intensive and constant training since a fighter pilot must always be able to defend himself in the air.

Major Frank Chuba, a pilot with the 191st alert detachment at Selfridge Air National Guard Base says, "In aerial combat, the one who makes the most mistakes, loses." His comment is backed up by that of Capt. Jeb Strickland, another pilot in the detachment: "Up there, there are only two kinds of aircraft, fighters and targets."

by Spec. Mark Jones

Photo by Spec. Mark Jones

Captain Bob Johnson grabs his "G" suit from the nose of his F-4D Phantom during a practice scramble at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Photo by Spec. Mark Jones

Major Frank Chuba, left, and Capt. Jeb Strickland debrief their last mission by playing back the cockpit voice recorder.

Photo by Spec. Mark Jones

Major Frank Chuba, left, and Maj. "Goose" Grosenback tighten their "G" suits prior to entering the cockpit of their F-4D Phantom on a practice alert.

Photo by Spec. Mark Jones

This F-4D Phantom is slowed on the runway at Selfridge Air National Guard Base by parachute after a practice NORAD scramble.

BERLIN CRISIS:

Editor's note: Twenty-five years ago the 156th Signal Battalion spent Christmas on Active Duty at Fort Benning, Georgia as one of many units Federalized by President John F. Kennedy to counter the Berlin Crisis. Chief Warrant Officer "Sonny" Damvelt was mobilized with the unit and we are pleased to publish his recollections.

The following is a summary of the mobilization of Company C, 156th Signal Battalion during the Berlin Wall Crisis 1961-1962. At the time of mobilization, units of the battalion were: Headquarters and Headquarters Company and Company A in Detroit, Company B in Adrian, Company C in Kalamazoo, and Company D in Monroe.

On August 13, 1961 at 2:00 am, East German troops, under Soviet direction sealed off the border between East and West Berlin.

Since the end of World War II, several million East Germans and citizens of other Iron Curtain countries chose freedom by fleeing to the West to escape communist domination.

Most of these refugees used the city of Berlin as an escape route. Berlin, half-free, half-communist, is located 110 miles deep in the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany. Though the city had been divided since the war, there was complete freedom of movement between the East and West Sectors, as provided for in international agreements. It was easy for East Germans and others to dream up an excuse for visiting East Berlin. Once there, they simply crossed over to West Berlin and freedom.

This drain on the East German manpower was disastrous. Many of the refugees were scientists, teachers, doctors, farmers and students. The East Germans could not afford to lose people in these categories.

To stop this escape to freedom, the East Germans closed off all of the crossing points between East and West Berlin and constructed the Berlin Wall of Shame.

In the days that followed, the barrier between East and West was improved. East German troops and police with armored cars and tanks, backed up by Soviet troops, prevented any further attempts to escape from East Berlin.

During the summer of 1961 the tensions over Berlin and the possible repeat of a blockade of the access routes caused the Department of Defense to prepare contingency plans for mobilizing Reserve Forces.

In July of 1961 many reserve units throughout the country received alert orders to be prepared for mobilization. When the alert orders were issued, the 156th Signal Battalion was not listed.

On Friday 25 August 1961 the Department of Defense issued mobilization orders to call 150,000 Guardsmen and Army Reserves as individuals and in units to duty.

The 156th Signal Battalion had not been on the original alert listed, but when the mobilization call came it was one of the units mobilized.

The reason for this was that during July of 1961 the 156th Signal Battalion, and many other Guard and Army Reserve Signal Corps units, participated in a Signal Exercise called Wig Wag IV at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. During this Exercise the 156th out scored all other units that participated. On the original alert list was an Army Reserve Signal Battalion from Chicago that placed last in the exercise. We were told that because of the success of the 156th, it replaced the Army Reserve unit on the final call-up list.

The mobilization order stated that members of the units would report for Active Duty at their home stations (Armory) on 1 October 1961 for Federal Service, move to mobilization station no later than 15 October 1961 and process the unit according to AR 135-300.

Immediately upon notice of mobilization, each unit brought to Active Duty several key personnel to assist the unit in preparation for entry into Federal Service. An officer as class A agent, supply personnel, administration personnnel and maintenance personnel were selected for these duties.

These individuals processed all the personnel files, arranged for physicals, shots, security clearances, ordered blank forms, processed ID cards for both soldiers and their dependents, ordered clothing and equipment, ordered railroad cars, bracing and blocking material and responded to the many requests from higher headquarters for rosters of personnel and the daily status of the mobilization.

At the time of mobilization the strength of Company C was 6 officers and 118 enlisted for a total of 124 personnel. The unit was authorized a strength of 124 personnel which was 71% of the MTOE (Modified Table of Organization Equipment) authorized at that time, full authorized strength

Photo courtesy of Fort Benning Public Affairs Office

Specialist Robert Szostem, foreground, and Spec. Ted White work a communications panel at Fort Gordon, Georgia during the Berlin Crisis.

25 Years Ago

was 172. Units during this period were authorized 71% or 50% manning depending on their deployment status.

During the period 25 August to 1 October the members of the unit performed extra weekend training drills to prepare to Active Duty. All personnel received physicals, immunizations, conducted physical training, made packing boxes for shipment of equipment, conducted inventories of unit and individual equipment.

One of the most interesting hardship cases was that two members of the unit were business partners and had a considerable investment that if both of them were ordered to Active Duty the business could be lost. The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Clarence C. Schnipke indicated that one of them could stay home to run the business. The situation was presented to the two Guardsmen, each said the other could stay home, a flip of a coin decided the outcome; one went and one stayed home to run the business. The two of them are still in business today.

On 12 October, Columbus Day the company departed Kalamazoo by train for Fort Benning, Georgia. The train went to Detroit where it joined the other units of the battalion and proceeded to Fort Benning arriving on 13 October.

Photo courtesy of Fort Benning Public Affairs Office

Private First Class Robert West and Spec. Andrew Fisher pull kitchen police in the field at Fort Gordon, April of 1962.

Photo courtesy of Fort Benning Public Affairs Office

This Fort Gordon, Georgia volley ball court is vacant while the 156th Signal Battalion trains to combat standard during the Berlin Crisis, 1962.

The unit had originally been ordered to report to Fort Gordon, Georgia. A staff visit by battalion personnel found that the troop quartering area was totally unsatisfactory and the battalion was reassigned to Fort Benning.

After arrival at Fort Benning the unit settled down to a 5½ day week of POR training (Preparation for Overseas Replacement). This consisted of physical training, extended road marches, weapons training and signal training. The signal training consisted of departing on Mondays for the field, staying out all week installing signal centers and returning on Saturdays, and releasing the troops at noon.

During the pre-mobilization phase the company requested 48 fillers (Members of the Individual Ready Reserve), these personnel were ordered by MOS to fill out our unit vacancies. Soon after our arrival the fillers started to report. Very few of them were MOS qualified, yet they had been awarded their MOS. Some had been out of the military for several years and some just a few months. With a few exceptions they were very fine soldiers.

The unit was short most of its required

Continued on next page

TOE signal equipment. We were told prior to our departure from home station to turn in our non TOE substitute signal equipment, because we would be issued the authorized equipment on Active Duty. After arrival we were told that our equipment was waiting for us in Europe. The fact was that no equipment was available in the United States or in Europe; it did not exist. These facts were brought out by Congressional hearings after release from Active Duty.

We were issued obsolete US Air Force signal equipment and old obsolete electrical equipment shelters to house the signal gear. We were fortunate to have the 122nd Signal Battalion of the 2nd Infantry Division on post and we shared signal equipment for our various training exercises. Many of these old HO 17 shelters can still be seen around at National Guard armories.

Many visitors from Michigan came to Fort Benning to see first hand the units of the 156th Signal Battalion. Lieutenant Governor John Lesinski, many Guard staff officers, the Mayors of Kalamazoo, Adrian and Monroe, and newspaper and TV reporters visited the units.

During the Holiday periods of Thanksgiving and Christmas the Army went all out to provide outstanding holiday meals of turkey and all of the trimmings.

The leave policy during the Christmas season was very liberal in that 75 percent of the personnel could have leave. The other 25 percent would have leave at News Years. The unit members that stayed at Fort Benning during the holidays had it relatively easy. The holiday routine at the post call for half-day work schedule and several days off.

After the holiday season ended and the start of the new year the units went to the field each week and prepared for the all important Army Training Test (ATT), the equivalent of todays ARTEP.

The big day came in February 1962 and all units passed and were certified combat ready.

The training became very routine and quite boring for many of the troops, and they all wondered when they would be released from Active Duty. The Crisis over the Berlin Wall was over, but the Kennedy Administration stated that they would not release the called up reserves, until the Regular Army was brought up to strength.

In the words of President John F. Kennedy when he announced the call-up of reserve units:

"Studies or careers will be interrupted; husbands and sons will be called away; incomes, in some cases, will be reduced. But these are the burdens which must be borne if freedom is to be defended — Americans have willingly borne them before — and they will not flinch from the task now."

President Kennedy told the American people that these men were called "...to prevent a war, not to fight a war." The Berlin Crisis ended without a war. The men of the 156th Signal Battalion returned home on 9 August 1962 to resume their lives as "Citizen Soldiers."

by CW4 Marine "Sonny" Damvelt

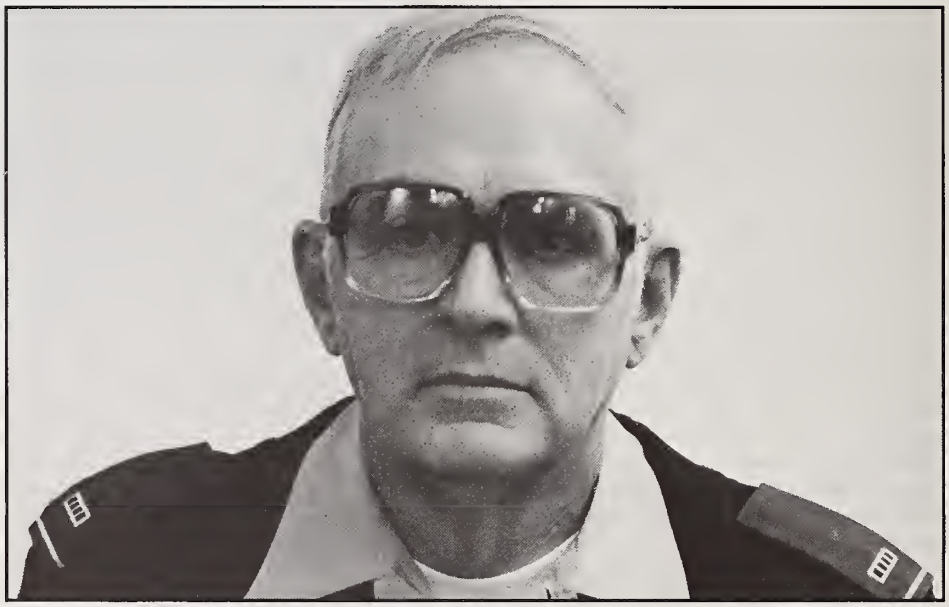
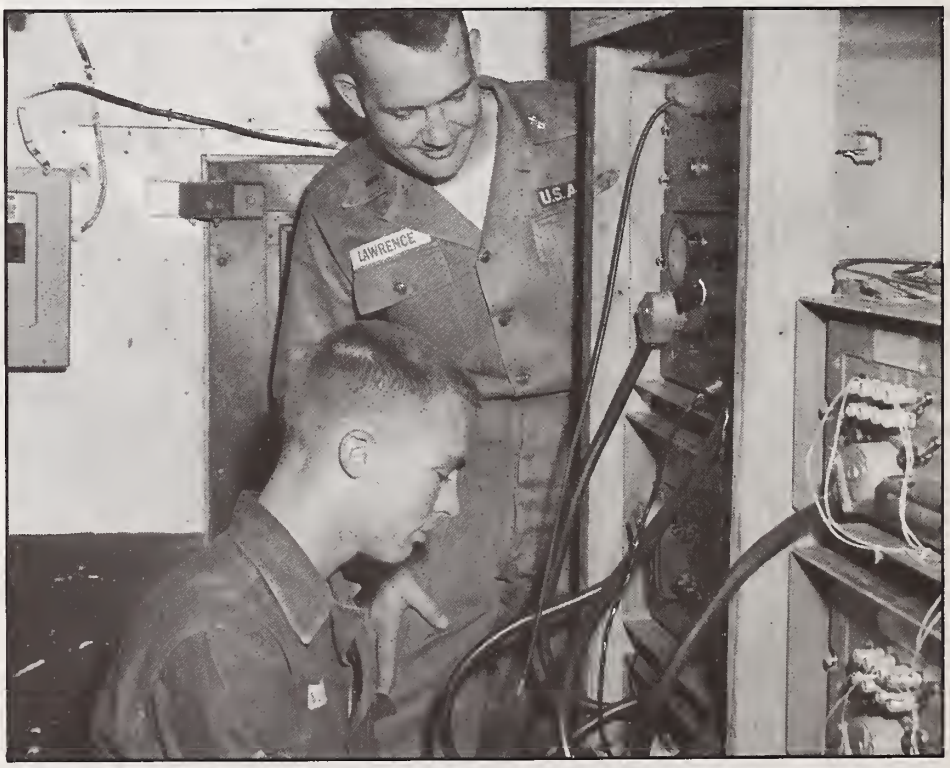


Photo by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Marine "Sonny" Damvelt was mobilized as a First Sergeant with the 156th Signal Battalion during the Berlin Crisis. Damvelt is the Unit Administrator for Company C 156th Signal Battalion.



First Lieutenant Warren J. Lawrence checks out a power panel with Spec. Gary Spainhour in a signal shelter at Fort Benning, Georgia in 1962. Lawrence now commands the 177th Military Police Brigade as a brigadier general.

Pontiac "Lurps" Climb Mt. Washington

Three non-commissioned officers from the Michigan National Guard recently traveled to New Hampshire's White Mountain Range to climb Mount Washington.

Staff Sergeant Chris Surmacz, Sgt. Scott Stevens and Staff Sgt. Robert Lagana, all members of the Michigan National Guard, Co F (Long Range Surveillance) 425th Infantry, decided to challenge the highest mountain in New Hampshire.

Several mountains ranges, notably the White mountains, belong to the northern extension of the Appalachian system. The highest elevation in the state is Mount Washington, 6,288 ft. in the Presidential range of the White Mountains.

Staff Sergeant Surmacz, when asked what he did to prepare for this climb, said "I run, swim and ride bicycle competitively on a regular basis, as a matter of fact, I had just finished a Triathlon in Ohio the day before we left to climb."

Triathlon is the very demanding 3 event sport consisting of a 1 mile swim, followed by a 25 kilometer bicycle race followed immediately by a 10 kilometer foot race.

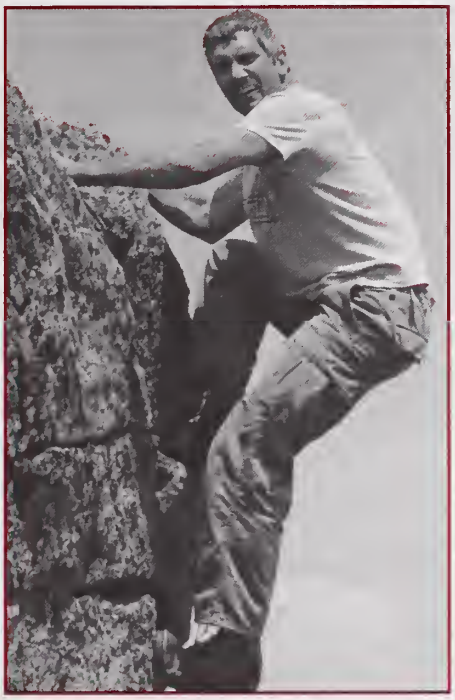
Sergeant Stevens, a recent contestant at the Best Ranger competition at Ft. Benning, GA said, "We all think that the physical conditioning of the individual is very important, that's one reason we undertook this climb. We knew that carrying 70 lb. rucksacks up and down rugged mountainous trails would be very demanding so we started a daily physical conditioning program that would prepare us for the task."

The "Lurp" climbers arrived in New Hampshire in the midst of a steady downpour of rain and cool temperatures. After spending a wet night in the White Mountains National Forest the Pontiac Guardsmen repacked their gear and drove to the base of Mt. Washington to begin their climb.

Each man carried the equipment necessary to survive temperature extremes and foul weather, plus food, water, fuel and stove. This all averaged out to weigh between 60 and 75 lbs. per man.

At the 1.4 mile mark the Ammonoosuc Ravine trail passes a memorial to Herbert J. Young, who in 1928 died of exposure at this location. The constant pull of the 60 lbs. of equipment felt like a reassuring friend. At 1.7 miles the trail passed through an area recovering from an avalanche in 1967 and over a rushing mountain brook. At 2.1 miles the trail immediately began a steep and rocky ascent where it was necessary to vertically raise the entire body weight plus the weight of the equipment with each step. At 2.2 miles the soldiers were afforded their first breathtaking view of the valley below and a panoramic view of the beautiful New Hampshire countryside.

Base camp was at 4,700 ft. above sea level where the temperature rapidly fell from 75 degrees to the mid 40's after sundown.



Photos by Sgt. Scott Stevens

Staff Sergeant Chris Surmacz demonstrates the free climb on Mount Washington in New Hampshire.

The distance from Mt. Monroe to Mt. Washington is about 3 kilometers horizontally and 1,100 ft. vertically.

This area is known for its harsh weather and sudden violent storms which have claimed many lives over the years.

Storms increase quickly in severity at higher elevation. The highest recorded winds in North America have been recorded right here, at an unbelievable 231 miles per hour.

The weather held and the final march to the top of Mt. Washington was accomplished in almost complete silence.

At the summit of Mt. Washington the temperature was a chilly 42 degrees, the wind was steady at 30 knots, and the view had to be seen to be appreciated. There was a great satisfaction at having accomplished a hard task.

The Pontiac Guardsmen hope to return to Mt. Washington next year with more members of Company F to train on technical climbing.

by Staff Sgt. Robert Lagana

Photos by Sgt. Scott Stevens

Left to right. Sergeant Scott Stevens, Staff Sgt. Chris Surmacz and Staff Sgt. Robert Lagana pose at the bottom of Mount Washington before their ascent.

Battle Books

Battle Books is a review of books of a general military nature. The opinions are those of the Editor of the *Wolverine Guard* and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Military Affairs.

STEWARDS OF THE STATE: THE GOVERNORS OF MICHIGAN

While Michigan played a pivotal and critical part in the Civil War, fielded the famed 32nd Infantry Division, *Les Terribles,* in World War I and was the Arsenal of Democracy in World War II, her governors do not share a wealth of military experience as shown in George Weeks' new *Stewards of the State, The Governors of Michigan.*

Only ten of Michigan's 44 governors have served in the military but those who did serve, did so with bravery and valor beginning with Russell A. Alger who was governor from 1885 until 1886. Governor Alger enlisted in the 2nd Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment in 1861 as a private and ended the war as a brevet major general.

Governor Hazen S. Pingree and Aaron T. Bliss both fought in the Civil War and both were in Confederate prison camps.

Governor Fred W. Green was the first governor to have served in the National Guard and Wilbur M. Brucker was the last. Green commanded Company G 33rd Michigan Infantry Regiment in the Spanish-American War and Brucker was a sergeant on the Mexican Border in 1916 with the 33rd Michigan. He later won the Silver Star in World War I and was the Secretary of the Army during the Eisenhower Administration.

Two governors lost legs in combat; Harry F. Kelley in World War I and John B. Swainson in World War II. Swainson was in the 95th Infantry in Europe late in 1944 and his jeep hit a land mine that blew both legs off below the knees.

G. Mennen Williams was a lieutenant commander in the United States Navy during the Second World War and won 10 battle stars for service on four different aircraft carriers.

Governor William Grawn Milliken was an enlisted waist gunner on B-24 Liberator bombers in the same war and was shot down over Italy where he parachuted to safety. Milliken was also wounded by flak over Germany.

The military uniforms of Governors Green, Brucker, Williams, Swainson and Milliken are on display at Michigan's Own Military and Space Museum at Frankenmuth, Michigan.

George Weeks does a thorough job of describing the tenure of each of Michigan's governors from colonial and territorial days to the present administration of James J. Blanchard. His descriptions of each State and Federal mobilization of the National Guard for labor unrest, strikes, wars and riots are especially well done and he errs only once. He states that Governor Albert E. Sleeper (1917-1920) sent the Michigan State Police to the Upper Peninsula in the summer of 1917 to quell labor unrest in the iron mines. Sleeper in fact sent the Michigan State Troops, formed by law on 17 April 1917 to perform the mission of the Michigan National Guard who had departed for France and World War I.

The Michigan State Troops did their law enforcement mission so well that they were reorganized into the Michigan State Police in 1919 after the Michigan National Guard was reconstituted. The first State Police commissioner was a former Adjutant General, Roy C. Vandercook.

Besides the sections on the governors, Weeks writes about the lieutenant governors, the history of the State Capitol, the official governor residences and the relations of the governors and the press. This last section is particularly interesting as Weeks spent 14 years with United Press International and was Governor Milliken's press secretary and chief of staff. His service on both sides of the microphone makes for insightful reading about the governors and a sometimes hostile press.

Paula Blanchard contributed a section on the wives of Michigan's governors that describes the changing role of Michigan's First Ladies.

Stewards of the State is an especially appropriate book as its publication comes during Michigan's Sesquicentennial and is recommended for anyone interested in the history of this State.

Stewards of the State, The Governors of Michigan. The Detroit News and the Historical Society of Michigan. 1987. Hardcover, $21.95, 191 pages with bibliography.

Photo from the collection of Maj. Michael H. Johnson

This Michigan National Guardsman was killed by a tornado at Ishpeming, Michigan after being ordered to duty by Governor John T. Rich during the 1895 Iron Strike.

Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

Editor's note: The Michigan Army National Guard promotion list is generated from the Department of Military Affairs Standard Installation and Division Personnel Reporting System (SIDPERS). This issue carries Army Guard promotions from 18 November to 9 December 1987. The Michigan Air National Guard promotions are for the month of November 1987.

PFC

Addison, James T.
Ahier, Janet L.
Anderson, Norman E.
Begeman, Ronald L., Jr.
Butler, Michael P.
Canning, Daniel B.
Cappadony, John, Jr.
Carpenter, William J.
Censke, Thomas A.
Crumback, Homer D., Jr.
Eisner, Robert T.
Ewing, Timothy L.
Fox, Mark O.
Gray, James C.
Griffin, Lisa A.
Harper, Thomas O., Jr.
Ickes, Mark R.
Jacobs, Karen L.
Jenkins, Larry A., Jr.
Joki, Brian K.
Mackey, Daniel P.
March, Randy A.
Newton, Jeffrey D.
Oisten, Chester L.
Oviedo, Andres
Park, Darren E.
Pelon, Russell J.
Popko, Domenic C.
Powell, Melvin T.
Praski, Jeffrey
Reese, Todd P.
Remington, Christopher D.
Sihtala, Michael P.
Steggerda, Jeffrey J.
Stepp, Demetrius
Stinson, Alvin E.
Stowell, Thomas M.
Street, Donald A.
Suski, Randai A.
Sutphin, Todd H.
Uhrig, Christopher G.
Vanderpool, Robert A.
Voss, Michael E.
Wickings, William P.
Zelenock, Scott P.

A1C

Grubka, Jon E.
Reeder, Karen S.

SPECIALIST FOURTH CLASS

Awad, Youssef B.
Beck, Craig N.
Bruner, James W.
Cacault, Oliver J.
Cox, David A.
Croley, Christopher C.
Crouse, John E.
Dabakey, Scott M.
Flemming, Laurance R.
Fornoff, Anthony G.
Gomez, Richard R.
Guenette, Edward J.
Hackler, John C.
Handelman, David H.
Hodges, Mark C.
June, James F.
Karaga, Saied J.
Kouw, John E.
LaPointe, Paul R.
Lashbrook, Charles K.
Leidlein, Laura L.
Merchant, Jeremiah B.
Miller, Leslie N.
Morrissey, Patrick J.
Munch, Robert L., Jr.
Noggle, David W.
Owens, Timothy T.
Patterson, Terry E.
Phillips, Michael R.
Porter, William J.
Reisman, Stephen W.
Robbins, Ronald A.
Sadler, William H. II
Smith, Deborah M.
Steele, Robert L.
Stokes, Anthony L.
Welsheimer, Ronald D.
Wilkinson, Jeffery L.
Williams, John C.

SENIOR AIRMAN

Anderson, Mark A.
Carr, William J.
Robinson, William P.
Sherman, Benjamin J.

CORPORAL

Bettinger, Kelley M.

SERGEANT

Foster, Steven R.
Perkins, Robbin L.
Wall, David A.

SERGEANT

Ash, Warren L.
Baes, Mark E.
Crosby, Leon, Jr.
Culling, Steven D.
Foreback, Randy A.
Girardot, Alfred L.
Lund, David W.
Martz, William B.
Menard, Alfred J.
Middleton, Kevin G.
Sica, Patrick J.
Terry, Patrick M.
Thomas, Edward A.
Vancourt, Joseph C.

STAFF SERGEANT

Matash, Edward A., Jr.
Stollings, Daniel A.

STAFF SERGEANT

Alward, Milton G.
Beecher, Reginald K.
Bremer, Glen R.
Etson, Alan M.
Ford, Larry S.
Forth, James D.
Kaiser, Dennis K.
Kamp, James C.
Lamb, Steven W.
Lipa, Dennis M.
Ordiway, Robert J.
Richards, William P., Jr.
Rozell, John S.

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS

Bowen, Russell D.
Osborn, Charles A.
Phillips, Franklin A.
Stockford, Gary D.

TECHNICAL SERGEANT

Barnes, Kenneth C.
Kelley, Andy K.
Wegner, Robert E., Jr.

MASTER SERGEANT

Hansen, David B.
Harmon, Dale L.
Hill, James E.
Skarsaune, Ragnar M.
Thomas, Mark M.

PLATOON SERGEANT

Miller, Gary L.
Shivlie, Louie G.
Strickland, John E.

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

Dumont, William L.
Lowery, Jerry J.
Mann, Richard E.

FIRST SERGEANT

McIntire, James I.
Roth, Miner W.

FIRST LIEUTENANT

Chambers, Timothy M.
Chapman, Wade E.

CAPTAIN

Dake, Levoy A.
Vandecar, Kelly A.
Watkins, William B.

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FLARE

Photo by Spec. Mark Jones

The Christmas Tree in front of the State Capitol at Lansing, Michigan came from Chippewa County in the Upper Peninsula and is the Nation's tallest at 75 feet. See General Andrews' Holiday Message at page 2.

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